

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An offset utility holding device configured to be attached to a utility structure and to carry elongated objects, comprising:

a support base configured to be attached to the utility structure;

an offset mounting stem extending upwardly at an incline from the support base;

a holding member disposed atop the offset mounting stem, the holding member including a generally "U"-shaped member having two upright arms and being open at the top so as to define a containment area configured to receive an elongate object; and

the holding member being disposed away from a space directly above the utility structure, such that the elongate object does not interfere with said space.

2. The utility holding device according to claim 1, wherein the holding member includes opposingly inclined resilient surfaces disposed in the containment area of the "U"-shaped member, for gripping objects placed therein.

3. The utility holding device according to claim 1, wherein the holding member includes hold-down attachments disposed on an outside surface of the "U"-shaped member.

5 4. The utility holding device according to claim 1, wherein the holding member includes balls atop the upright arms of the "U"-shaped member.

10 5. The utility holding device according to claim 1, wherein the support base is pivotable with respect to the utility structure, such that the holding member may be rotated to more securely grip elongate objects therein.

15 6. The utility holding device according to claim 1, wherein the support base further comprises:
a base member having a bottom surface;
a u-bolt attached to the base member, and configured to surround a bar of the utility structure and secure the bottom surface of the base member thereto.

20 7. The utility holding device according to claim 6, wherein the orientation of the u-bolt relative to the base member is selectively adjustable, whereby the base member may be secured to the bar in any of a plurality of angular
25 orientations relative to a substantially vertical axis.

8. The utility holding device according to claim 1,
wherein:

the utility structure comprises a flat panel having top
and bottom sides; and

5 the support base further comprises:

a base member having a bottom surface, the bottom
surface being disposed against the top side of the
flat panel such that the offset mounting stem and
holding member extend away from said top surface;
and

10 a bolt extending through the flat panel, and attached
to the base member so as to secure the base member
to the flat panel.

15 9. The utility holding device according to claim 1,
wherein the utility structure is selected from the group
consisting of a vehicle cargo rack, a treestand railing, a
treestand footrest, vehicle handlebars, and a kickboat
frame.

20 10. A utility holding system configured to be attached
to a vehicle and to carry elongated objects, comprising:

a cargo rack disposed on the vehicle, having a cargo
space vertically thereabove; and

25 a holder attached to the cargo rack, including:

- (1) a support base attached to the cargo rack;
- (2) an offset mounting stem extending upwardly at an incline from the support base; and
- (3) a holding member disposed atop the offset mounting stem and substantially outside the cargo space, and configured to receive an elongate object therein.

11. The utility holding system according to claim 10, wherein the holding member comprises a generally "U"-shaped containment area having two upright arms and being open at the top.

12. The utility holding system according to claim 11, wherein the holding member further comprises oppositely inclined resilient surfaces disposed in the containment area of the "U"-shaped member, for gripping objects placed therein.

13. The utility holding system according to claim 10, wherein the support base is pivotable about a substantially vertical axis, such that the holding member may be rotated to more securely grip elongate objects therein.

14. The utility holding system according to claim 10,
wherein the support base further comprises:

a base member having a bottom surface;

a u-bolt attached to the base member, and configured to
be tightened to grip the bar of the cargo rack to
secure it against the bottom surface of the base
member.

15. The utility holding system according to claim 10,
further comprising a plurality of holders attached to the
cargo rack and disposed in alignment such that an elongate
object may be supported by the plurality of holders.

16. An offset utility holding system configured to
carry elongated objects, comprising:

a cargo rack having an edge and a cargo space
thereabove;

a first support base, attached to the edge of the cargo
rack;

a first offset mounting stem, extending upwardly at an
incline from the first support base and away from
the cargo space; and

a first holding member disposed atop the first offset
mounting stem and configured to receive an

elongate object therein, and hold the elongate object substantially outside the cargo space.

5 17. The utility holding system according to claim 16, wherein the first support base is pivotable about a substantially vertical axis, such that the first holding member may be rotated to more securely grip elongate objects therein.

10 18. The utility holding system according to claim 16, further comprising:

a second support base attached to the edge of the cargo rack;

15 a second offset mounting stem extending upwardly at an incline from the second support base and away from the cargo space; and

20 a second holding member disposed atop the second offset mounting stem and configured to receive an elongate object therein, the second holding member being disposed in alignment with the first holding member such that an elongate object may be supported by the first and second holding members and disposed substantially outside the cargo space.

19. The utility holding system according to claim 16,
wherein the holding member comprises a generally "U"-shaped
containment area having two upright arms and being open at
the top, and includes opposingly inclined resilient surfaces
disposed in the containment area of the "U"-shaped member,
for gripping objects placed therein.